

AN
ORATION,

DELIVERED AT WARWICK, MASS.

JULY 4TH, A. D. 1813.

*BEFORE THE WASHINGTON BENEVO-
LENT SOCIETIES, AND A LARGE
NUMBER OF CITIZENS.*

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[PUBLISHED AT THE REQUEST OF THE SOCIETY.]

AN ORATION.

TO contemplate the causes which produce the growth or decline of empires and states, to trace the progress of revolutions, the birth of nations and the formation of governments, is a subject replete with interest, commanding the attention, not only of the Philosopher and Statesman, but those in the retired and humbler walks of life. But the interest we take in these events is always proportionate to their proximity, and those of our own country and our own times deservedly claim our first consideration.

On this Anniversary of our Independence, we look back on the "days of other times," and while reviewing the great events which produced it, a spontaneous burst of honest feeling induces us

"To tell of the deeds which our fathers have done."

Such feeling is a surer indication of love of country, a firmer bond of Patriotism, than all the empty vaporings of knowing politicians, who bask in the sunshine of their country's prosperity, but shrink in the moment of peril and danger. The business of the politician and statesman, in his elaborate deductions, his fine-spun theories and ampler projects, is *calculation*; ours *feeling*: his the effort of the *head*; ours the offspring of the *heart*; the uncontrolled feelings of the latter are enviable rather than the speculations of the former, and he who contemplates the events which produced our Independence, and those which have succeeded it, though unversed in the complex machinery of government, or unlearned in the science of politics, may have emotions equally refined, feelings equally indicative of an ardent attachment to his country, and hopes equally sincere for her future prosperity.

On this great jubilee of these United States, what heart so cold that is not warmed with pleasing re-

collection of the past, what soul so unallied to every honorable feeling, that is not animated with the pleasing reflection *this day gave a nation birth, and this is my Country!*

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead,
Who never to himself hath said
This is my own, my native land!"

In the history of nations confusion marks their origin. Where fact is wanted fable is supplied, and the clouds of uncertainty hover over the most laborious researches. But this nation forms a solitary exception. Descended from a learned, brave and magnanimous people, jealous of their rights and strongly attached to Liberty; our ancestors brought with them that enthusiasm of feeling, that sacred love of freedom, which is a leading characteristic of the parent country. The motives which led them to this country confirmed those habits and feelings which they had early imbibed. The untried climate, an inclement season, the threatening attitude of savages, poverty nor death had terrors to shake their determined resolution; or divert them from their purpose. Their object was Liberty, their confidence was in Heaven. Patient in suffering, persevering, industrious, strict in morals and correct in principles, the people of New-England have inherited the virtues of their ancestors, and preserved unimpaired those excellent institutions, which will long remain as monuments of their piety and benevolence.

From the first settlement of this country until the Revolution, the attachment of the colonists toward the mother country seemed to be unabated. Similarity of language, customs, habits, laws, and religion identified them as one people, and an active trade, from which mutual benefits resulted, preserved that reciprocation of good will which so eminently distinguished them during that period. The causes which interrupted this harmony are well known.

Mutually exasperated, pride on one side, and consciousness of rectitude on the other, produced that eventful collision which drenched our shores in blood, cost Great Britain an immensity of treasure and waste of human life, and effected the Independence of the United States.

In that arduous contest, having no General Government, deficient in military stores, without funds, and unskilled in military tactics, we engaged a nation powerful in arms, and of immense resources. Thousands, who approved the cause, feared the issue. Success was too much for hope, yet submission was too degrading to be suffered. The Goddess of Liberty armed their hearts with fortitude and nerved their arms with strength. When Despondency like haggard incubus, sat cowering on the heart, the sacred name of Liberty gave elasticity to feeling; fatigue, hunger, and sickness became "trifles light as air," and all personal considerations were absorbed in the cause of their country. But whatever may have been individual feeling, or the disposition of the then several Colonies, hopeless would have been their cause without harmony of action, union of strength, and a head capable of reducing confusion into order, a disjointed unconnected mass into a regular system, and directing their efforts to a certain object. Such was the father of his country, the great, the good, lamented WASHINGTON. Possessed of ample fortune, happy in the bosom of his family, domestic endearments twined about his heart, and the sympathies of private life fastened on his affections. Yet when his country claimed his services, when duty called him to "the tented field," he hastened to obey its summons, and by his personal sacrifices and unceasing exertions, evinced a most zealous attachment to the cause of Liberty, and infused life and animation among his compatriots in arms.

In forming an army Washington met with such numerous obstructions and difficulties that Patriotism less than his must have yielded to their weight. Enlistments, except in the first moments of popular indignation, were unfrequent, and the accession of voluntary force merely nominal. Brought together from every part of the country, such were their views of Liberty, that the restraints of a camp but ill accorded with their feelings, nor could they brook that strict discipline to which they were subjected. With them liberty bordered on licentiousness, and they were almost as ready to repel any attempts to introduce military subordination as to resist the pretensions of Great Britain. They were accustomed to deprecate oppression, and, without making very nice distinctions, revolted at its appearance wherever found. The short periods of service for which they engaged, were such, that no sooner had some degree of order been introduced than their term of service had expired. No inducement could delay their immediate departure, new recruits supplied their places, and the same scenes of confusion and insubordination were repeated. Supplies of provision and military stores were very irregularly furnished, murmurings and complaints succeeded, and the opposers of revolutionary principles by magnifying real privations and sufferings, inventing others, and attributing them to wilful neglect or want of foresight, induced a number to abandon a cause they had originally promoted with the most sanguine expectations of immediate success. During the whole period that hostilities were continued, such were the embarrassments and difficulties Washington had to encounter. Yet he remained firm and inflexible, conducted that obstinate contest to a happy issue, and was the principal instrument, under heaven, of obtaining from Great Britain an acknowledgment of our Independence.

For services like these, the best return he could have, was the sincere affection of the people. In every section of the country his name was associated with the most endearing objects, and was made convertible with every excellence that dignifies humanity. In the hour of danger, he was the firm, un-deviating friend of his country, and when the tempest of war had passed, when peace with its attendant blessings visited our shores, he was called to the highest office in the gift of a grateful people.

The feelings of Washington on that occasion, mark most strongly one feature of his excellent character. To use his own words, he felt "like a criminal going to the place of execution." Political fame he considered a mere vapor, a breath, depending oftener on a concurrence of fortunate events than a faithful discharge of duty. Having a presentiment of the agitations that were about to convulse the infant Republic, his determination to accept the Presidency was not performed without the most mature deliberations, and a fixed resolution never to depart from that uniform and dignified course of policy which the situation of his country so eminently demanded.

What with him had been matter of *expectation* soon became *fact*. It was the policy of France in her contest with Great Britain to draw the United States into renewed acts of hostility against that power, and for this purpose every means was tried which fraud and artifice could invent. Three public ministers successively arrived, who, not being able to draw the administration into their views, in the true character of Jacobins, appealed to the *sovereign people*. Never was there a more complete triumvirate of villainy, and never did the majesty of an Independent government receive greater indignity and insult. Yet they were caressed and countenanced by thousands, who, infatuated with the idea of a *sister*

republic, and a co-operation in the support of *Liberty and Equality*, pursued a phantom crimsoned with the blood of slaughtered thousands, and which constantly pointed its bloody finger to the murderous guillotine. Then the tri-coloured ribbon became the specific for republican virtues, and a Liberty-Cap, fitting every senseless head that chose to wear it, made *stupidity* the empire of the *rights of man*. Then was produced a glorious era of *Equality*, identifying wit with dullness, religion with infidelity, and made “all Federalists, all Republicans.”

In order to prevent this disorganizing spirit, and bar even the hope of success to those who entertained it, WASHINGTON issued a Proclamation of Neutrality, being satisfied that a pacific course was necessary to the interest of his country. This measure excited an usual degree of fervour—The French-American Gazettes teemed with inflammatory addresses; artful appeals were made to the passions of the people; and the tempest of faction threatened destruction to that fair fabric, erected by the united wisdom of the country. But the dignified attitude and uniform conduct of the administration successfully resisted the current of popular sensation, and preserved, unsullied, our political institutions.

The return of sober reason had not yet allayed the discordant passions; when the treaty concluded between the United States and Great Britain was put into circulation, previous to its being ratified. Its effect was instantaneous. Every engine which bribery and corruption could put in requisition, every rancorous passion which fraud could number, were in motion. Faction was emboldened by its number, and fearlessly attacked all who were averse to their insidious views. In numerous places mobs were collected who vented their diabolical feelings by burning effigies of those who were most obnoxious to their plots of darkness. The unsullied char-

actor of WASHINGTON escaped not the virulence of their abuse, nor shielded that heart from the pang of unmerited censure, which felt no interest unconnected with Patriotism. He was accused of "trampling over the constitution," of being "the source of the misfortunes of his country!"

In the succeeding administration, the rapid advance of the United States, in Agriculture, Commerce and Manufactures, was the best comment on the wise policy of the former. An active and lucrative Commerce excited an unusual degree of enterprise; our proud flag waved in every part of the globe; our canvass whitened every sea; and the luxuries of every foreign climate flowed into our harbors. Our schools and seminaries of learning increased, and were liberally supported; industry was crowned with abundant success; the finances of our country were placed on a respectable footing; our infant navy was the pride and care of the administration; our name was respectable abroad, and even France did not *then* dare tell us we were "a nation without honor." Yet her piratical practices produced a rupture, and removed that appearance of friendship which never was cordially felt on either side. Preparations were made for war, but open hostilities never took place. France had determined to drive us into a compliance with her wishes, and, counting largely on the strength of her partizans in this country, doubted not her eventual success. WASHINGTON highly approved the measures adopted by our government, and expressed his regret *that all the expences could not be taxed upon the French party in this country*, which was the cause of these disturbances.

This administration was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, a man who, during the Presidency of WASHINGTON, established a press, and imported a French editor, to subvert Federal principles, establish his own

on their ruins, and secure for himself the Presidential chair; who, in a letter to another renegade Frenchman, accused WASHINGTON of a dereliction of principles, a disposition hostile to our infant Republic, and descended to the lowest, the most pitiful means of defaming his character and blasting his reputation; this man was exalted to the highest office in the gift of the people!—His ~~character~~ he owed to the enemies of WASHINGTON; to the unceasing exertions of a party which, under the various names of Democrats, Jacobins, and Republicans, retained the same principles and views by which they were first distinguished. What glorious prospects were presented! Grateful anticipation viewed a people blessed with every means of happiness; hope whispered the approach of whatever can make a country blessed in its internal relations, and promised peace with mankind. Universal Benevolence and Philanthropy were to aid in the consummation, and Virtue become the tutelary Guardian of our country. No odious “gag-law” was to prevent free discussion, no importunate tax-gatherers to pick our pockets, and no restraint on opinion or practice, to prevent the worship of “one God or twenty Gods.” In order to prevent being embroiled in the wars of foreign nations, we were “to abandon the ocean altogether;” and instead of murderous wars, and the enormous expense of supporting a *Navy*, grand national *experiments* were to be made, and the irradiation of Science, the mild influence of Philosophy *illuminate* the public mind.—Yet there were those who doubted the accomplishment of those events, even when guaranteed by one of the greatest theorists that ever presided over the interests of a free people. The tinselled gewgaws of this dreaming visionary had charms to fascinate the minds of those only, who understood no system, unless recommended by novelty and enthusiasm. But a moment’s dispassionate

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enquiry dissipated the air-built fabric, and exposed the credulities of a distempered brain. Had folly alone marked the administration, Charity might have extended her mantle and veiled it from remembrance; but even her plastic hand can never form a veil to hide the dark atrocities which signalise that memorable period. Proscription and favouritism commenced; revolutionary patriots who had breast-ed the storm of war, who had received honorable scars in defence of their country, were ignominiously deprived of the little pittance to which their meritorious services had entitled them; men of incorruptible integrity were told their services could be dispensed with; and hungry expectants, renegado foreigners who had fled from their own country to escape the hands of justice, and unprincipled parasites, without a single qualification, except their mean servility to those in power, received, exclusively, executive patronage. Mr. Jefferson's rejection of the treaty with Great Britain, his refusal to lay it even before the Constitutional Council, form an important era in the political history of our country. From that time the clouds of adversity blackened our political horizon, and the sun of Liberty was dimmed with the pestilential vapors of a desperate faction. The demon of party now stood confessed, its poisonous breath infected the sources of our prosperity, and its insinuating venom pervaded every part of the political body.

The time had now arrived when the admirers of revolutionary France might gratify their enmity to Great Britain, and at the same time subserve the views of the Despot who directed the affairs of the French nation. His favorite project was the subversion of the British government, and every effort was directed to this point. Well he knew this could only be effected by the ruin of her commerce, and the consequent destruction of her naval greatness.

To this end, by bribery and corruption, by the terror of his arms, he had nearly excluded the commerce of G. B. from Europe, and drew our willing administration into a friendly co-operation. An embargo was laid, unlimited in point of duration, and intended to coerce Great-Britain into an acknowledgment of certain maritime rights novel and extraordinary. The patient suffering of the people under that oppressive measure for so great a length of time, forms their highest eulogium, and is the best pledge of their Patriotism, their willing submission to constituted authorities, and scrupulous attention to social order. Among the friends of administration British tyranny has become proverbial, but in that country with all its tyranny, a restraint like this upon the active industries of the people, would inevitably have been resisted and the ministry driven from their places. The promised effects of this measure were to starve the inhabitants of the West-India Islands, and prevent Great-Britain from procuring naval stores.— The history of nations does not afford an instance of a measure so humiliating to an Independent Government, from the foreign influence which effected it; so revolting to the feelings of humanity, in one part of its promised effect; so palpably characteristic of ignorance respecting the resources of a foreign nation; and so obstinately continued, to the destruction of our own commerce, the interest of individuals, and the spirit of enterprize.

The artifice made use of to give a coloring of justice to this measure, was marked with the unblushing effrontery of a determined faction. An order, which, at the time of its promulgation, was considered in favor of American commerce, is now declared to be the commencement of aggression on the rights of neutrals! Where was the sleeping honors of this country, now so highly insulted, when official notice of that measure was made to our gov-

ernment t—Why was it not recited at the time of such notification?—Where *then* were the tender sensibilities of administration which have since been excited?—The Argus eyes of a foreign Despot watched our rights and interests; he sounded the tocsin of alarm, and his smile or his frown told us when to resist and when to forbear.

Happy people! Never did vestal watch with more solicitude the sacred fire, than this *supreminent*, disinterested friend of nations' rights guarded your political interests! In the expiring moments of this administration a non-intercourse law was passed, extending both to Great Britain and France. This measure, which had the appearance of exact and equal justice, was an artful, insidious manoeuvre calculated to mislead ignorance and credulity. Our commercial intercourse with France was merely nominal, and the whole weight of this measure fell on Great-Britain.

Mr. Jefferson's best act was now to be performed.—He retired from office. To him succeeded the present incumbent. A perfect parallel in point of political feeling, he pursued the same ruinous course of policy which was commenced by his predecessor. For him it was reserved to exhibit to an astonished world the inglorious, disgraceful spectacle of a Chief Magistrate of an independent nation becoming a mere satellite, an appendage to a wretch, whose friendship is founded in perfidy and preserved with infamy. A proclamation was issued declaring the French Decrees to be rescinded, and, consequently, a suspension of the non-intercourse law in regard to France. What was the evidence of such rescinding?—A mere note from a secretary of Bonaparte, artfully intended to deceive the *people* of the United States, for the *administration* could not have been duped with such shallow artifice. It contained two conditional alternatives, on the performance of eith-

er of which, the Decrees, hostile to American commerce, should cease to exist from and after a certain day therein mentioned. For what purpose was it ordered that all American property captured or seized, or that might be captured or seized, should be held in a state of sequestration? The reason was given with the order. *Until it should be seen whether either of these conditions shall be performed; whether Great-Britain would revoke her Orders in Council, or the United States cause her rights to be respected.*

The same Act that empowered the President to suspend the operation of the non-intercourse law, in regard to either of the belligerent powers that should remove their obnoxious Orders or Decrees, also provided that measures should have been taken for the restoration of American property seized under those illegal acts. Yet to this day it has not even been pretended that such measures had been taken. The English Government immediately demanded the evidence of the repeal of the French Decrees, but no such evidence could be furnished. The French Government was then called upon by our minister there, who ultimately procured a copy of a second decree, offering a pretended former one, on which Mr. Madison had founded his proclamation. If the former was an absolute, unconditional repeal, it could receive no additional force from the latter; if it were not absolute and unconditional, Mr. Madison was guilty of a palpable falsehood.—Let his friends extricate him.

The best pledge of our hearty concurrence in what was called the *Continental System* had not yet been given. Infamy now cast its blackest shade on the administration, and the memorable Declaration of War against Great Britain was made a sacrifice to appease the political God of our rulers. The principal ostensible causes were Orders in Council and Impressment. Grosser misrepresentation or more di-

act falsehood were never palmed upon an infatuated people. Secret friendships and secret antipathies swayed our great national interests; the treasures of the country were dissipated, the blood of our citizens wasted, and our independence jeopardized, to subserve the purposes of a desperate Cabal, whose councils were hurrying this fair country to the verge of ruin. Four days after the Declaration of War, the Orders in Council were revoked.—Impressment, therefore, was the only cause for continuing it, but never, until it became necessary to find expedients had this subject been *cause* of War. The hardships and suffering of seamen was the hypocritic cant, the popular sing-song of the day. Every appeal was made to the passions which art and ingenuity could contrive. Mementoes of their misfortunes struck the indignant eye in every city, town, and village—fancy pictured their numerous sufferings, writhing under the torturing lash, loaded with chains unworthy of the vilest criminal, and confined in dungeons dismal and horrible, where eternal darkness reigned, where the soothing voice of pity never came.—The administration were moved with sympathy, and all the “*lives and fortunes and sacred honor*” men swelled the note of indignation at their unmerited injuries.—Suddenly these sympathetic emotions cease.—No longer the cries of suffering thousands disturb our quiet.—You whose hearts swelled with pity, whose eye flashed with indignation, who snatched the avenging sword from its scabbard, at that tale of woe,—tell, what secret power thus steeled your hearts, what sorcery thus changed the aspect of misery, or struck from existence that mystic number of victims compelled to serve on board “the floating hells of Great Britain!”—Why did Compassion cease when Discord struck its harshest note, *Napoleon the Great is fallen*?—

The events of the late war completely character-

ize the administration. It was commenced in wickedness, prosecuted with weakness and closed with disgrace. Except the brilliant efforts of our little navy, that child of Federal policy, and a few distinguished actions by land, the whole is a tissue of folly and confusion, and the result such as might have been expected from such a miserable, shuffling, temporizing policy.

The treaty formed with Great Britain we are told, is "highly honorable to the United States." What have we gained by that treaty which makes it thus *honorable*?—Have we obtained a single right for which we contended? What have we lost?—Time would fail to enumerate the waste of blood and treasure, and the various calamities which have clothed the country in mourning and sorrow. New channels of commerce have discovered themselves to Great Britain; some of our most lucrative branches of commerce, both of export and import are cut off; and the high rank we once held in the scale of nations but adds to our present humiliation. Fatal experience has probably taught the administration that Europe and America united could not compel Great Britain to submission. When our administration can "wield the red artillery of Heaven," then they may "drive the fast-anchored isle from her moorings," and favored France become the mistress of the ocean.

At the commencement of this contest, great reliance was placed on the fall, and complete success of Bonaparte, and the consequent necessity of the English government to direct every effort to that point where his progress might be checked. This dependance on that Despot has produced incalculable evil to this country. Baser subserviency was never discovered than in this administration to that successful Usurper, whose life is marked with infamy, whose course is tracked with blood. His vin-

dictive soul claims no kindred to the tender sympathies of life, no alliance to Heaven, no parallel on earth ; but dark, revengeful, horrible with crime, it seeks its kindred spirits where are

"sights of woe,
Regions of sorrow, doleful shades, where peace
And rest can never dwell."

The blood of murdered thousands cry for vengeance, and the offended justice of Heaven is delayed only that other tyrants and oppressors may tremble at its certain, though late execution. As his fortunes have had their ebbs and flows, the hopes and fears of his minions in the United States have been excited. At one time he is "the avenger of injured nations, the super-eminent Napoleon;" at another, "a tyrant and usurper;" now his virtues have resuscitated, and again he is the *supereminent Napoleon!*

The slavish doctrines of non-resistance, passive obedience, and unconditional submission, are the invariable attendants of an oppressive administration, and the zeal of their advocates, uniformly rise in proportion to its corruption. Such unworthy sentiments were never founded in love of order, or attachment to Constitutional rights. Their defenders would gladly see re-acted a murderous scene of recent date, when an infuriated mob, urged by similar feelings, took the administration under its protection, and, to appease its offended majesty, sacrificed a LINGAN! Murdered, sainted Patriot! while sympathy shall warm a heart, or virtue find a votary; while Liberty shall have a refuge here, thy life shall teach us how a Patriot should live, thy death, how he should die.—At this atrocious crime, this savage deed of darkness, Liberty wept tears of blood. Revolting humanity turns from that scene of horror, where the silver locks of age felt the brutal grasp of the assas-

sin's hand, and the revolutionary Patriot in vain desired exemption from promiscuous slaughter.

Let the miserable wretch who markets his services to the highest bidder, who measures his Patriotism by Dollars and Cents, who for executive patronage, grants an equivalent in base subserviency ; let such trumpet the immaculate purity of their patrons, and inculcate unconditional submission. Though a hireling editor, under Government favor, may threaten "*kemp and confiscation,*" such pitiful menaces hardly deserve a thought or excite contempt. What are the claims of the administration for our cordial support ? They have manifested the most fixed, incurable hostility towards Great Britain ; base subserviency and partiality to France ; plunged us into war with one power to aid the ambitious projects of the other, and wasted the blood and treasure of the country. They have nearly ruined our commerce by non-intercourse, non-impotation and embargo ; lost some of the most lucrative branches of trade ; and brought poverty and distress on a great portion of the country. They have hired an unprincipled scoundrel to traduce that part of the country which was then groaning under the oppression of their destructive measures, and hurried him away in a national ship to prevent the exposure of their perfidy. They have unwarrantably pursued novel political experiments, and followed the mere vagaries of imagination, rather than the dictates of sound policy. They have attempted a counterpart of French military despotism, in an odious system of conscription. They have declared in a great national question, *that Constitutional scruples ought not to exist.*— An analysis of their measures may be summed up in two words : folly and wickedness.

However difficult it may be to ascertain the precise moment when encroachments on our Constitutional rights should be resisted, whatever danger may

be involved, still there is a point in suffering, beyond which it is not the duty of the citizen to pass; a stage of injury where silence would be meanness, and submission treason.

On this anniversary of American Independence, when every social feeling is called into action, and the offering of grateful hearts ascend to Heaven, for our wonderful escapes from the thousand dangers that have beset us, and for the preservation of our civil and religious institutions, geographical boundaries will not limit the range of Benevolence, or circumscribe philanthropy. We participate the joy of those emancipated nations of Europe, which have shaken off the badge of servitude, and risen once more in the conscious majesty of Independence. Even "thick-lipp'd musing melancholy" may for a moment cast away its cares, join in grateful aspirations for past blessings, and hopes for our future prosperity.

Brethren of the Washington benevolent Society,

The altar of freedom this day receives the offering of grateful hearts, Patriotism brings its willing tribute, and the spirit of WASHINGTON, virtue's favorite child, bids his disciples consecrate this anniversary of American Independence to God and our Country.

In assuming the name of Washington, we have given a pledge of our inviolable attachment to the Constitution of the United States. Let this pledge be redeemed by a rigid adherence to this great Palladium of our Liberties, and prompt resistance to every attempt of its violation. Though ignorance has vented its pitiful sneer, though wickedness has labored in misrepresentation, and virulence has exhausted its storehouse of abuse, our excellent institution surmounts this hopeless combination, its principles will outlive those worthless defamers, and flourish when

they shall have been forgotten. Those who traduced Washington will defame you. He was charged with trampling over the Constitution, of favoring Great Britain! You are accused of opposition to Government, and British partialities. To be censured where WASHINGTON was censured, is our best encomium, the happiest confirmation of the correct basis of our principles. While "easy meddling memory" presents in pleasing procession his private virtues, his public services, his attachment to civil liberty, and respect for our holy religion, his amiable character claims our admiration, and sadness for his irreparable loss demands one tributary tear.

The unaffected humility of Washington in private life was equalled only by his dignified, unwavering conduct while in the exercise of his official duties. The fitful oscillations of a temporizing, irresolute policy, were never discovered in his administration. While others were desponding at accumulated difficulties, or pursuing a slow and tiresome process of investigation, his capacious mind had already formed a remedy. For him, splendid pageantry and pompous show had nothing that could retain the fleeting indulgence of a moment, nor could the gilded flatteries of fawning sycophants gain admission to his heart. For him, the empty honors paid to station and influence had no charms, for well he knew the tribute would be paid them, whether allied to virtue or blasted with infamy. For his services he found a reward in the affections of his fellow citizens, but his best recompense was the approbation of his heart, the conscious discharge of duty.

Though our indignation should ever be excited at the tricks and impostures of those whose business it has been to mislead, we should indulge rather pity than contempt for the credulous subjects of their deceptions. Justice and Patriotism sanction the form-

er; the feelings of a liberal heart, the principles of our Institution demand the latter.

To the name, let us add the mild, benignant virtue of Benevolence. Let the child of sorrow find relief at your hands. When misery lays its icy fingers on the heart-strings, let philanthropy whisper consolation; when poverty dries up even the source of hope, then let your munificence unfold its pinching grasp, and teach the man of woe how extensive your Benevolence, how sincere your Charity.

Who that wears your proud badge, the pictured semblance of the "father of his country," does not feel the inspiration of his manly virtues?—It is a memento to emulate his political graces; a guardian monitor that prompts to a jealous watchfulness over our Constitutional rights; an ^{impregnable} ~~impenetrable~~ shield that guards the patriot breast against the inroads of political corruption.

When the clouds of adversity hover round our political horizon, let not debasing fear nor enervating despondency prevent our active exertions. In the hour of prosperity, let no false security throw us off our guard, nor allay that ardent attachment to liberty which freemen should ever cherish. Let us remember there is no government so perfect that may not be corrupted; none so corrupt that may not be purified.

— imperious

TOASTS AT WARWICK CELEBRATION, JULY 4TH, 1815.



1. *American Independence.*—Achieved by the valor and blood of *REVOLUTIONARY HEROES*;—to whose virtues we offer this *Annual free-will offering of grateful Commemoration.*

2. *The Illustrious Washington.*—“His whole life evinced the *glory of Humanity.*”—We bear his standard—if we are his disciples indeed, we shall walk on his ground.

3. *The Constitution of the U. States.*—“The bond of our union”—When *Tyrants* break it, we are no longer bound.”

4. *The Federal Administration.*—From difficulties which “tried *mens' souls,*” it conducted us to “The full tide of successful experiment.”

5. *Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures.*—Each essential to *National prosperity*;—They deserve better encouragement, than “*honed speeches,*” “*Dignified retirement,*” and *unreasonable taxation.*

6. *Peace.*—The parent and nurse of all that is good for man—May she ever preside in all our *public councils* and *private deliberations*;—And may her *benign influence* pervade the world.

7. *The Rev. Clergy of New England.*—*Learned, pious, and patriotic.*—*M. & Infidelity* and *Jacobinism,* never be able to deprive them of their rights.

8. *The Navy of the U. States.*—The Legitimate offspring of *Federalism.*—After having been denounced by *democracy* as “*worse than useless,*” she has proved her title to favor, by “*looking down* *opposition.*”

9. *Freedom of the Press and of Opinion.*—The safeguards of our *civil and religious liberties.*—We will never tamely surrender them even to “*governmental mobs.*”

10. *The Minority in the last Congress.*—With *vigilance* and *fidelity,* they performed their duty;—But “*the light shineth in darkness,* and the darkness comprehendeth it not.”

11. *The Executive of the U. States, with the Majority of Congress.*—“*They are like the troubled sea, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.*” —May they in peace retire from office and all the people say *Amen.*

12. *Vermont*.—“ May her *Green-mountain-boys* no longer ‘halt between two opinions;—but may their virtues and patriotism, become pure as her streams and durable as her mountains.’”

13. *The Advocates of Madison's War, and their new hosts of ASSESSORS, and TAX-GATHERERS*.—“ The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.”

14. *President Madison*.—‘The Hero—of *Bladensburg*—For “sailors rights”—he sent an exterminating war into the wilderness—fought a *Canadian Grist-mill*.—Ingloriously escaped the *Conflagration of Washington*—Spilt the blood of thousands—squandered millions—and submitted to *Arbitration* the birth right of our country.’

15. *His Excellency Gov. Strong*.—‘This great, good man, presides over a free and patriotic people—He guards their constitutional rights and privileges—his best reward is the gratitude of his country, and the favor of Heaven.’

16. *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*.—In this old cradle, are still nursed, *Liberty's Strong Defenders*.

17. *The W. B. S.*—Its principles are the leaves of our political “*Tree of Life*”—“ for the healing of the Nation.”

18. *The fair*.— Their frowns all human happiness destroy :—
Their smiles bring peace & love & boundless joy.

VOLUNTEERS.

The Athol Band and Warwick Choir (whose harmony contributed much to the entertainments of the day)—Their performances are admirable—May they, by exercising their Musical powers here, be prepared to unite with that HARMONIOUS, BENEVOLENT SOCIETY where discord will never enter.

The Orator of the day, (he having retired.)—Eloquent, patriotic, and pathetic.—With the Federal heel of historic truth, he has bruised the heads of our party-colored, democratic, French Serpents.